

Abstract of the Disclosure

5 A background event buffer manager (BEBM) for ordering and
accounting for events in a data processing system having a processor
includes a port for receiving event identifications (IDs) from a device, a
queuing function enabled for queuing event IDs received, and a notification
function for notifying the processor of queued event IDs. The
10 BEBM handles all event ordering and accounting for the processor. The
BEBM in preferred embodiments queues events by type with priority and by
priority within type, and also handles sending acknowledgement to the
device when processing on each event is concluded, and buffers the
acknowledgement process. In particular embodiments the apparatus and
15 method is taught as a packet processing router engine.